LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA

NINETY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 919

Introduced by Smith, 48

Read first time January 5, 2006

Committee: Natural Resources

A BILL

FOR AN ACT relating to game and parks; to amend sections 37-421 and 37-421.01, Revised Statutes Supplement, 2005; to provide for discounted combination hunting and fishing permits for persons in military service; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original sections.

Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

-1-

Section 1. Section 37-421, Revised Statutes Supplement,

- 2 2005, is amended to read:
- 3 37-421 (1) The commission may issue an annual combination
- 4 fishing and hunting permit upon application and payment of a fee of
- 5 five dollars to:
- 6 (a) any Any Nebraska resident who is a veteran, who
- 7 is sixty-four years of age or older, and who was discharged or
- 8 separated with a characterization of honorable or general (under
- 9 honorable conditions); or
- 10 (b) any Any Nebraska resident who is sixty-nine years of
- 11 age or older; or -
- 12 (c) Any Nebraska resident who is in military service or
- 13 who is on active service of the state.
- 14 (2) A person who is issued a permit under this section
- 15 shall be exempt from the payment of any additional fees provided by
- 16 the laws of the State of Nebraska and established by the commission
- 17 pursuant to section 37-327 for the privilege of fishing or hunting
- 18 in Nebraska, except that such exemption shall not extend to the
- 19 privilege of commercial fishing, trapping of fur-bearing animals,
- 20 or hunting for deer, antelope, wild turkey, or any other species of
- 21 fish and game on which the open season is limited to a restricted
- 22 number of permits or to special permits for a restricted area or
- 23 game management unit.
- 24 (2) (3) A permit issued as provided in this section shall
- 25 expire as provided in section 37-405. Permits issued under this

1 section as it existed before January 1, 2006, shall not expire as

- 2 provided in section 37-405.
- 3 (4) If disabled persons are unable by reason of
- 4 physical infirmities to hunt and fish in the normal manner, the
- 5 commission may issue special permits without cost to those persons
- 6 to hunt and fish from a vehicle, but such permits shall not
- 7 authorize any person to shoot from any public highway.
- 8 (4) (5) The commission may adopt and promulgate rules and
- 9 regulations necessary to carry out this section.
- 10 (6) For purposes of this section:
- 11 <u>(a) Active service of the state has the same meaning as</u>
- 12 in subdivision (2) of section 55-104; and
- 13 (b) Military service means service as a member of the
- 14 armed forces of the United States, including the National Guard or
- 15 reserves.
- 16 Sec. 2. Section 37-421.01, Revised Statutes Supplement,
- 17 2005, is amended to read:
- 18 37-421.01 (1) Notwithstanding any provision of section
- 19 37-407 to the contrary, a Nebraska resident who purchased a
- 20 hunting, fishing, or combination hunting and fishing permit and
- 21 who was deployed out of state with a branch of the United States
- 22 military shall be entitled to receive a discounted permit on a
- 23 one-time basis upon returning to the state if the resident:
- 24 (a) Provides to the commission satisfactory proof of
- 25 purchase of the original permit and evidence of the resident's

1 deployment out of state during the period of the original permit;

- 2 and
- 3 (b) Was deployed out of state for more than one-half of
- 4 the period of the original permit.
- 5 (2)(a) (1)(a) Notwithstanding any provision of section
- 6 37-447, 37-449, 37-450, 37-451, or 37-457 to the contrary, a
- 7 Nebraska resident who purchased a big game permit and who was
- 8 deployed out of state with a branch of the United States military
- 9 for the entire season of the hunt and who was unable to use
- 10 the permit shall be entitled to receive a discounted permit on a
- 11 one-time basis upon returning to the state if the resident provides
- 12 to the commission satisfactory proof of purchase of the original
- 13 permit and evidence of the resident's deployment. Alternatively,
- 14 the member of the military may request a refund of the amount paid
- 15 for a big game permit and the commission shall pay such amount.
- 16 (b) For purposes of this subsection, big game means
- 17 antelope, deer, elk, mountain sheep, and wild turkeys.
- 18 $\frac{(3)}{(3)}$ (2) The commission shall establish a fee of five
- 19 dollars for the discounted permits authorized in this section.
- 20 The commission may authorize electronic issuance of the discounted
- 21 permits.
- 22 (4) (3) The commission may adopt and promulgate rules and
- 23 regulations that set forth the procedures for applying for, and the
- 24 issuance of, the discounted permits authorized in this section.
- 25 Sec. 3. Original sections 37-421 and 37-421.01, Revised

1 Statutes Supplement, 2005, are repealed.